



9 to 4:30

## Anti-Raise Witnesses Will Hit Hard

By JOHN CRAMER

Insiders say Administration spokesmen will take a hard-as-nails stand against Federal employee raises when they appear before the House Civil Service Committee Thursday.

### Federal Fidgets

Reportedly, they will tell the Committee:

✓ That the President will not approve proposed raises for the 950,000 Classified employees, including the 200,000 here.

✓ That Classified raises should be delayed until the Administration has time to prepare recommendations based on a new Bureau of Labor Statistics study of industrial pay rates — a study which won't be completed until this fall.

✓ That the President will approve raises for the 550,000 postal employees only if they are "reasonable"—and only if they are accompanied by a postal rate increase bill to finance the cost.

✓ That he will not approve an "unreasonable" raise—even if accompanied by rate increases.

If this reported position is the one the Administration actually takes, it means the pay legislation is headed for almost certain veto.

There is virtually no chance Congress will approve the



postal pay raise without an accompanying Classified raise.

A veto, however, will not

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